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### Key indicators

Single-crystal X-ray study T = 293 KMean  $\sigma(\text{C}-\text{C}) = 0.003 \text{ Å}$  R factor = 0.030 wR factor = 0.083 Data-to-parameter ratio = 16.8

For details of how these key indicators were automatically derived from the article, see http://journals.iucr.org/e.

# The title compound, $[Ni(C_{14}H_{14}O_2PS_2)_2]$ , consists of discrete molecules with the Ni atom chelated by both S atoms of the *p*-tolyldithiophosphate ligands in a bidentate manner in a four-coordinate environment. The molecule has inversion symmetry about the Ni atom, and the geometry is nearly perfect square planar, with S-Ni-S chelate bond angles of 89.12 (2)°.

Bis(O,O'-di-p-tolyldithiophosphato- $\kappa^2$ S,S')nickel(II)

# Comment

Studies on metal-dithiophosphate and dithiophosphinate complexes are nowadays driven by their biological properties such as fungicidal and antibacterial activity (Livingstone & Mihkelson, 1970) and in materials applications, such as additives in lubricating oils (Jones & Symes, 1971; Shiomi et al., 1989). In the title compound, (I), the molecule is discrete and has a centre of inversion at the central Ni atom. The geometry at nickel is nearly a perfect square plane, with an S-Ni-S chelate bond angle of 89.12(2) Å. The Ni-S distances [2.2298 (5) and 2.2348 (5) Å] are in agreement with other analogues, such as  $[Ni(S_2(POEt)_2)_2]$  [2.230 (4) and 1967] 2.236 (4) Å; McConnell & Kastalsky, and  $[Ni(S_2P(OMe)_2)_2]$  [2.225 (5) and 2.219 (2) Å; Kastalsky & McConnell, 1969]. The other bond lengths and angles are in normal ranges (Allen et al., 1987) and comparable with other square-planar nickel(II) complexes. The NiS<sub>4</sub>P<sub>2</sub> fragment is essentially planar with a maximum deviation of 0.153(1) Å for atom S2 from the mean plane. The interatomic distance between Ni1 and P1 of 2.7914 (6) A is shorter than that of the octahedral [Niphen(S<sub>2</sub>PO<sub>2</sub>C<sub>6</sub>H<sub>14</sub>)<sub>2</sub>] [3.022 (1) and 2.969 (2) Å; Hao et al., 2001]. The ester fragments, O1/C1-C7 and O2/ C8-C14, are essentially planar, with maximum deviations of 0.157 (1) Å for O1 and 0.030 (1) Å for O2, respectively. The two fragments make an angle with each other of  $61.10 (11)^{\circ}$ .



# **Experimental**

 $Na_2[S_2PO_2C_6H_{14}]_2$  was first prepared according to the method described in the literature (Kabachnik & Mastryukova, 1953). To a warm 30 ml deionized water solution of  $Na_2[S_2PO_2C_6H_{14}]_2$  (6.0 g, 12.7 mmol) was added 20 ml aqueous solution of NiSO<sub>4</sub> (1.6 g, 10.3 mmol). The mixture was stirred for 20 min and refluxed for 30 min. The solution was filtered and the purple precipitate was washed and dried under vacuum. Crystals suitable for X-ray investigation were obtained by recrystallization from acetone.

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Z = 1

 $D_{\rm r} = 1.446 {\rm Mg} {\rm m}^{-3}$ 

Cell parameters from 4396

 $0.48 \times 0.26 \times 0.23 \text{ mm}$ 

3031 independent reflections

 $w = 1/[\sigma^2(F_o^2) + (0.0471P)^2]$ 

where  $P = (F_o^2 + 2F_c^2)/3$ 

+ 0.1517P]

 $\Delta \rho_{\rm min} = -0.19 \text{ e} \text{ Å}^{-3}$ 

 $(\Delta/\sigma)_{\rm max} < 0.001$  $\Delta \rho_{\rm max} = 0.35 \text{ e } \text{\AA}^{-3}$ 

2789 reflections with  $I > 2\sigma(I)$ 

Mo  $K\alpha$  radiation

reflections

 $\mu = 1.03 \text{ mm}^{-1}$ 

T = 293 (2) K

Block, purple

 $R_{\rm int} = 0.016$ 

 $\theta_{\rm max} = 26.0^{\circ}$ 

 $h = -8 \rightarrow 8$ 

 $\begin{array}{l} k=-11 \rightarrow 11 \\ l=-14 \rightarrow 14 \end{array}$ 

 $\theta = 1.7 - 26.0^{\circ}$ 

# Crystal data

$$\begin{split} & [\mathrm{Ni}(\mathrm{C}_{14}\mathrm{H}_{14}\mathrm{O}_{2}\mathrm{PS}_{2})_{2}] \\ & M_{r} = 677.39 \\ & \mathrm{Triclinic}, \ P\overline{1} \\ & a = 7.1884 \ (11) \ \mathring{\mathrm{A}} \\ & b = 9.3158 \ (14) \ \mathring{\mathrm{A}} \\ & c = 12.1699 \ (18) \ \mathring{\mathrm{A}} \\ & \alpha = 78.605 \ (2)^{\circ} \\ & \beta = 81.335 \ (2)^{\circ} \\ & \gamma = 78.557 \ (2)^{\circ} \\ & V = 777.7 \ (2) \ \mathring{\mathrm{A}}^{3} \end{split}$$

### Data collection

Bruker SMART APEX diffractometer  $\omega$  scans Absorption correction: multi-scan (*SADABS*; Sheldrick, 1996)  $T_{min} = 0.638, T_{max} = 0.798$ 8064 measured reflections

### Refinement

Refinement on  $F^2$   $R[F^2 > 2\sigma(F^2)] = 0.030$   $wR(F^2) = 0.083$  S = 1.043031 reflections 180 parameters H-atom parameters constrained

### Table 1

Selected geometric parameters (Å, °).

Ni1-S2	2.2298 (5)	S2-P1	1.9743 (7)
Ni1-S1	2.2348 (5)	P1-O1	1.5830 (13)
S1-P1	1.9782 (7)	P1-O2	1.5877 (14)
\$2-Ni1-\$1	89.12 (2)	O1-P1-O2	99.39 (7)
P1-S1-Ni1	82.75 (2)	S2-P1-S1	104.85 (3)
P1-S2-Ni1	82.97 (2)		

After their location in a difference map, all H atoms were fixed geometrically at ideal positions and allowed to ride on the parent C atom, with C-H = 0.93–0.96 Å and  $U_{iso}(H) = 1.5U_{eq}(C)$  or  $1.2U_{eq}(C)$ , respectively.

Data collection: *SMART* (Siemens, 1996); cell refinement: *SAINT* (Siemens, 1996); data reduction: *SAINT*; program(s) used to solve structure: *SHELXS*97 (Sheldrick, 1997); program(s) used to refine structure: *SHELXL*97 (Sheldrick, 1997); molecular graphics: *SHELXTL*; software used to prepare material for publication: *SHELXTL*, *PARST* (Nardelli, 1995) and *PLATON* (Spek, 2003).



The molecular structure of the title compound, with 50% probability displacement ellipsoids. [Symmetry code: (A) 2 - x, 1 - y, -z.]

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